

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A seat assembly for a vehicle comprising:
a seatback;
a seat cushion;
a link mechanism for supporting the seat cushion; and
a drive unit for driving the link mechanism and moving the seat cushion
between a seating position and a stowed position; wherein when the seat
cushion is moved between the seating position and the stowed position,
the seat cushion and the seatback keep a constant posture by an operation
of the link mechanism and the drive unit.

2. A seat assembly according to claim 1, further
comprising a control unit for operating the drive unit, wherein the drive
unit includes a first drive unit for moving the seat cushion and a second
drive unit for moving the seatback, and the first drive unit and the second
drive unit operate in association with each other for simultaneously
operating the seat cushion and the seatback.

3. A seat assembly according to claim 1, wherein the link
mechanism includes a first link mechanism for moving the seat cushion
and a second link mechanism for simultaneously moving the first link
mechanism and the seatback.

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4. A seat assembly according to claim 2, wherein the first drive unit is attached to one of cushion side frames forming the seat cushion and the second drive unit is attached to one of backside frames forming the seatback.

5. A seat assembly according to claim 4, wherein the link mechanism includes a first pair of links rotatably connected to the respective cushion side frames via a first rotational shaft and to a vehicle floor via a second rotational shaft, and a second pair of links rotatably connected to the respective cushion side frames via a third rotational shaft and to the vehicle floor via a fourth rotational shaft.

6. A seat assembly according to claim 5, wherein the first pair of links are connected with each other via the first rotational shaft.

7. A seat assembly according to claim 6, wherein the first drive unit includes a first motor and a first deceleration mechanism and the second drive unit includes a second motor and a second deceleration mechanism.

8. A seat assembly according to claim 7, wherein the first drive unit further includes a pinion which is rotated by the first motor and the first deceleration mechanism and which engages with a gear fixed to the first rotational shaft.

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9. A seat assembly according to claim 3, wherein the first link mechanism includes a first pair of links rotatably connected to the seat cushion via a first rotational shaft and to a vehicle floor via a second rotational shaft, and a second pair of links rotatably connected to the seat cushion via a third rotational shaft and to the vehicle floor via a fourth rotational shaft.

10. A seat assembly according to claim 9, wherein the second link mechanism connects the seatback and the second pair of links.